

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 011297

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO ALL EC CAPITALS DTD
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QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 0389

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EC, TU

SUBJECT: PROMINENT TURKISH SENATOR CALLS FOR INSTITUTIONALIZED
EC-TURKEY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

SENATOR KAMRAN INAN, CHAIRMAN OF TURKISH SENATE'S FOREIGN
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND PRESIDENT OF TURKEY'S PARLIAMENTARY
COMMITTEE, LED 18-MEMBER TURKISH PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION
TO LUXEMBOURG JANUARY 10-11 FOR INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH
VARIOUS EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT POLITICAL GROUPS AND EC
COMMISSION OFFICIALS ON TURKEY'S RELATIONS WITH THE EC
(WHICH, AS USUAL, INEVITABLY SPILLED OVER INTO TURKISH
GRIEVANCE TOWARD GREECE REGARDING CYPRUS AND THE AEGEAN).
FOLLOWING THESE DISCUSSIONS, SENATOR INAN TOLD THE PRESS
THAT EC-TURKISH RELATIONS MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO DETERIORATE
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AS A RESULT OF FORTHCOMING GREEK ACCESSION TO THE
COMMUNITY AND SAID THAT TO OFFSET GREEK INFLUENCE IN THE
COMMUNITY, EC-TURKISH POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS SHOULD BE
ESTABLISHED: "IN THE EVENT GREECE BECOMES A FULL
MEMBER TURKEY SHOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO PARTICIPATE
IN POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS ON AN EQUAL FOOTING SO
THAT THE BALANCE IS NOT UPSET BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES."

INAN ALSO REPORTEDLY SAID THAT TURKEY AND THE EC SHOULD DISCUSS THE GREEK ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS WITH TURKEY WHILE THEY ARE IN TRAIN. END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL: COMMENT: THE INAN PITCH FOR EC-TURKEY POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS IS SIMILAR TO TURKISH AMBASSADOR SARACOGLU'S SUGGESTION TO THE AMBASSADOR IN DECEMBER THAT ONE WAY TURKEY'S CONCERNS OVER GREEK ACCESSION MIGHT BE MET WOULD BE BY INVOLVING TURKEY IN EC POLITICAL COOPERATION ON " ALL MATTERS WHICH CONCERN EUROPE AS A WHOLE."

3. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: A BRITISH MEMBER OF THE TURKEY-EEC PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ADDRESSED A DIFFERENT ASPECT OF EC-TURKISH RELATIONS IN A SPEECH TO THE PARLIAMENT ON JANUARY 12. IN URGING THAT THE COMMUNITY TRY TO STANDARDIZE ITS TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH NON-MEMBER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, HE MAINTAINED THAT TURKEY'S AGRICULTURAL TRADE WITH THE EC HAS BEEN BADLY DISADVANTAGED BY THE COMMUNITY'S GLOBAL MEDITERRANEAN POLICY WHICH HAS RECENTLY GIVEN OTHER MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES GREATER CONCESSIONS THAN THOSE EXTENDED TO TURKEY UNDER THE EC-TURKEY ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT AND ITS RELATED PROTOCOLS CONCLUDED PRIOR TO THE GLOBAL MEDITERRANEAN POLICY. HE ARGUED THAT IN ANY FUTURE EC-TURKISH TALKS DESIGNED TO IMPROVE EC-TURKEY RELATIONS, TURKEY SHOULD BE GIVEN ADDITIONAL COMPENSATING AGRICULTURAL CONCESSIONS. HINTON UNQUOTE KISSINGER
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